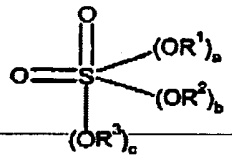
IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 4-9 and 12-21.

1. (Original) A mixture of sulfuric esters of formula (1)

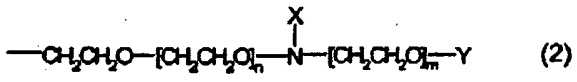


(1)

wherein

R^1 is an aliphatic radical having 1 to 30 carbon atoms,

R^2 is a radical of formula (2)



(2)

wherein

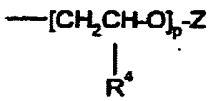
n is an integer from 0 to 30,

m is an integer from 1 to 29,

X is an aliphatic radical having 4 to 24 carbon atoms, and

Y is H or $SO_2(OM)$, where M represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C_1-C_6-alkyl)ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C_2-C_6-alkanol)ammonium ions,

R^3 is a radical of formula (3)



(3)

wherein

p is an integer from 4 to 35,

R^4 is H, methyl, ethyl, phenyl, or mixtures of H and methyl, and

Z is H, methyl, ethyl, or $SO_2(OM)$, where M represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C_1-C_6-alkyl)ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C_2-C_6-alkanol)ammonium ions, and

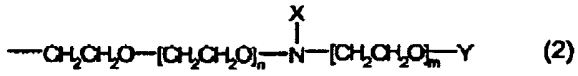
a, b, and c are identical or different and are 0, 1, or 2, with the proviso that a+b+c is 2,

obtained by reacting sulfuryl chloride with a mixture of the alcohols R^1OH, R^2OH, and R^3OH, wherein R^1, R^2, and R^3 have the same meanings as for formula (1) except that Y is exclusively hydrogen and Z is hydrogen, methyl, or ethyl.

2. (Previously Presented) A mixture of sulfuric esters according to Claim 1 wherein

R^1 is an aliphatic radical having 4 to 30 carbon atoms,

R^2 is a radical of formula (2)



(2)

wherein

n is an integer from 0 to 10,

m is an integer from 1 to 10,

X is an aliphatic radical having 12 to 24 carbon atoms, and

Y is H or $SO_2(OM)$, where M independently represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C_1-C_6-alkyl)ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C_2-C_6-alkanol)ammonium ions,

R^3 is a radical of formula (3)

(3)

wherein

p is an integer from 4 to 35,

R^4 is H or methyl, and

Z is H, methyl, ethyl, or $SO_2(OM)$, where M independently represents hydrogen, alkali metal, ammonium, mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C_1-C_6-alkyl)-ammonium, or mono-, di-, tri-, or tetra(C_2-C_6-alkanol)ammonium ions, and

a, b, and c are identical or different and are 0, 1, or 2, with the proviso that a+b+c is

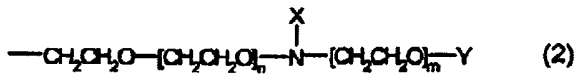
PAGE 6/14 * RCVD AT 4/26/2004 6:20:31 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/4 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:412 777 2612 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-36

2.

3. (Original) A mixture of sulfuric esters according to Claim 1 wherein

R^1 is an aliphatic radical having 8 to 20 carbon atoms,

R^2 is a radical of formula (2)



(2)

wherein

n is an integer from 0 to 5,

m is an integer from 1 to 5,

X is an aliphatic radical having 16 to 22 carbon atoms, and

Y is H,

R^3 is a radical of formula (3)

(3)

wherein

p is an integer from 9 to 22,

R^1 is H, and

Z is H, and

a, b, and c are identical or different and are 0, 1, or 2 with the proviso that a+b+c is 2.

4-9 (Canceled)

10. (Original) An organic or aqueous-organic formulation comprising 25 to 70% by weight of a mixture of sulfuric esters according to Claim 1.

11. (Original) An organic or aqueous-organic formulation according to Claim 10 wherein the organic component of the formulation comprises one or more organic solvents selected from the group consisting of mono-, di-, and oligoethylene glycols, oligopropylene glycols, and oligoethylene/ propylene glycols, and mono- and diethers thereof.

12- 21. (Canceled)